

Council Highlights

July 13, 1996
Roger Kimura MD, Secretary

The meeting was called to order by Dr Carl Lehman, President at 1:00 pm.

Those present were J. Spangler, President-elect, R. Kimura, Secretary; L. Howard, Treasurer; AMA Delegate: C. Kam AMA Alternate Delegate: A. Kunimoto; Speaker: H.K.W. Chinn; County Presidents: E. Bade, Hawaii; M. Joshi, Maui; T. Crane, Kauai; Councilors: T. Au, D. Canete, P. Chinn, W. Dang, Jr., P. Demare, M. Shirasu, K. Thorburn, W. Young, J. Betwee, P. Kim, C. Kadooka, A. Bairos; Past Presidents: W. Chang, A. Don, J. McDonnell; Medical Student Section: J. Ing, Young Physician Section: C. Goto; HMA Alliance Members: C. Gutteling, C. Lehman, V. Lau, S. Robinson, and J. Chuang.

HMA Staff: J. Won, N. Jones, B. Kendro, J. Asato, and L. Tong, Recording Secretary, A. Rogness.

Minutes: The minutes of the June 7, 1996 meeting were approved as circulated.

- Dr Lehman reported: 1) He attended the AMA Annual meeting which was well attended and very informative. Dr Holschuh did a wonderful job presenting HMA's resolutions. There were over 195 resolutions and 85 reports. The HMA officers met with AMA's Strategic Planner, Bruce Balfe on two occasions. Mr. Balfe will come to Hawaii in August and meet with a group of physicians from HMA to help analyze and assist HMA on its short-term and long-term plans; 2) the Gang of Six met this week and discussed legislative issues; 3) he is Chair of the Medical-Legal Committee on the Hawaii Health Council who is considering the presentation of a two-hour course on alternative dispute resolution in health care sometime in November; 4) he attended the HPPA meeting July 12; Dr Don reported that since HMA will not be able to fund the project, PMAG will also not fund it. There is still interest from the members and they are looking at the resources that HMA has (Peer Review, etc.) currently in order to set up an MSO with minimal funding.

- Mrs Gutteling of the HMA Alliance reported that they cherish the social functions they have been involved in with the HMA and thanked Dr Lehman for his support. The Alliance has made an impact through health care and advocacy programs. The Alliance will meet with the HMA Executive Committee to discuss some concerns they have about social functions and their role in the HMA. Mrs Lehman attended the AMA meeting in Chicago as an Alliance Delegate and stated it was a very positive meeting. Suggestions were given on increasing membership and having a Domestic Abuse shelter shower. Another suggestion was to sell bags or boxes promoting antiviolenace at shopping malls, etc. Mrs. Lehman thanked the HMA for the opportunity to attend the AMA meeting.

For Action

The following actions were taken by the Council—

- Approved the Finance and Executive Committee recommendations for allocating funds as follows:

\$5000 to meet the request of the HCMS for a reduction in its contract for services with HMA.

\$3,500 to fund the original 1996 budget allotment for the HMA Alliance.

\$5,000 be restored to the salaries budget line item for a receptionist.

\$2,500 be added to the Retirement budget line item.

\$4,000 be restored to the meetings budget item for meals with rules for the meals.

- Approved Dr Walter Shim's request to attend the next Council meeting

to discuss some ideas that would be beneficial to the HMA and the Symphony. Council asked the HCMS Membership Committee to consider a recommendation for honorary membership for Dr Wong.

- Asked the Executive Committee to look into the focus of the HMSA Managed Care Conference.

- Asked Drs Andrew Don and Frederick C. Holschuh to remain on the QUEST Advisory Board as HMA's representatives.

- Approved the Annual Meeting Committee recommendation to hold the 1997 Annual meeting at the Hilton Waikoloa Village, Island of Hawaii from October 23-26/97.

- Approved the Memberships Benefits Committee recommendations of the FOLI Program and UNUM Long Term Care Insurance Program as benefits for HMA members. Requested the Benefits Committee to obtain more information on the Physician Fund benefit as follows: 1) contact other insurance companies in various states who have participated in this program and find out how it is working; 2) look at HMA's liability, if any.

- Directed a letter be sent to Dr Chris Gulbrandsen, Dean, Medical School, requesting support for resident's coverage to allow attendance at the HMA Annual Meeting.

Component Society Reports

Honolulu.—Dr W. Dang, Jr. reported that the HCMS Nominating Committee is seeking names for the elections in October; will revise the bylaws; and has adopted a revised budget similar to that of the HMA.

West Hawaii.—No report.

Hawaii.—Dr Bade reported that their County had regular monthly meetings. The Alliance has been promoting the children's books by Dr Matsuura to raise funds for the AMA-ERF.

Maui.—Dr Joshi reported that Maui County will be having meetings on health care fraud with speaker Kurt Butler and on the Tamoxifen Studies.

Kauai.—Dr Crane reported that their County had a meeting on the West side of the island in an attempt to recruit more members from that area.

For Information

CIVS.—Mr Won reported that the HMA should be making appointments with the hospitals next week to market the CIVS.

Tobacco Task Force.—The committee will be contacting Commander Todd of Tripler to assist in curbing the sale of cigarettes to the military who resell them at a higher rates to the public. The committee is considering legislation which will require people who look under 30 to show an I.D. when buying cigarettes the same as for alcohol purchases.

HMA/AMA Mutual Help Discussion.—David Cloud of the AMA met with the HMA Executive Committee regarding developing a mutual working relationship between the AMA and HMA. The AMA can help state associations with staff support/their expertise and state associations can help the AMA with things state associations are better at doing.

AMA Fraud & Abuse Win.—Dr Lehman reported that the language of HR 3103 has been changed and that physicians would have to be knowingly and intentionally abusing the system in order for it to be a crime.

Council Meetings.—Council meetings will continue to be held on Fridays until the Annual Meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for August 2 and the following meeting will be held on September 13 (budget session)

The meeting was adjourned at 3:20 p.m.